DC
SUPERMAN
STARRING IN
ACTION
COMICS
YES, THIS IS REALLY THE MAN OF STEEL--
--ONLY HE DOESN'T KNOW IT!
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SUPERMAN®
Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
WELL! FANCY MEETING YOU HERE, SUPERMAN! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE A PATRON OF THE ARTS, TOO!
I'M NOT NEARLY AS DEDICATED AS YOU, MASTER JAILER! I DON'T TAKE THE ART HOME WITH ME--
--AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE SORRY YOU EVEN TRIED!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, DOESN'T IT?
S-4487
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A DAY AT THE MUSEUM IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE... AT LEAST NOT IN METROPOLIS! BUT IF YOU DON'T MIND A LITTLE EXCITEMENT MIXED IN WITH YOUR CULTURE, THIS IS THE PLACE TO BE TO GET IN AT THE BEGINNING OF...
"A NEW LIFE FOR SUPERMAN!"

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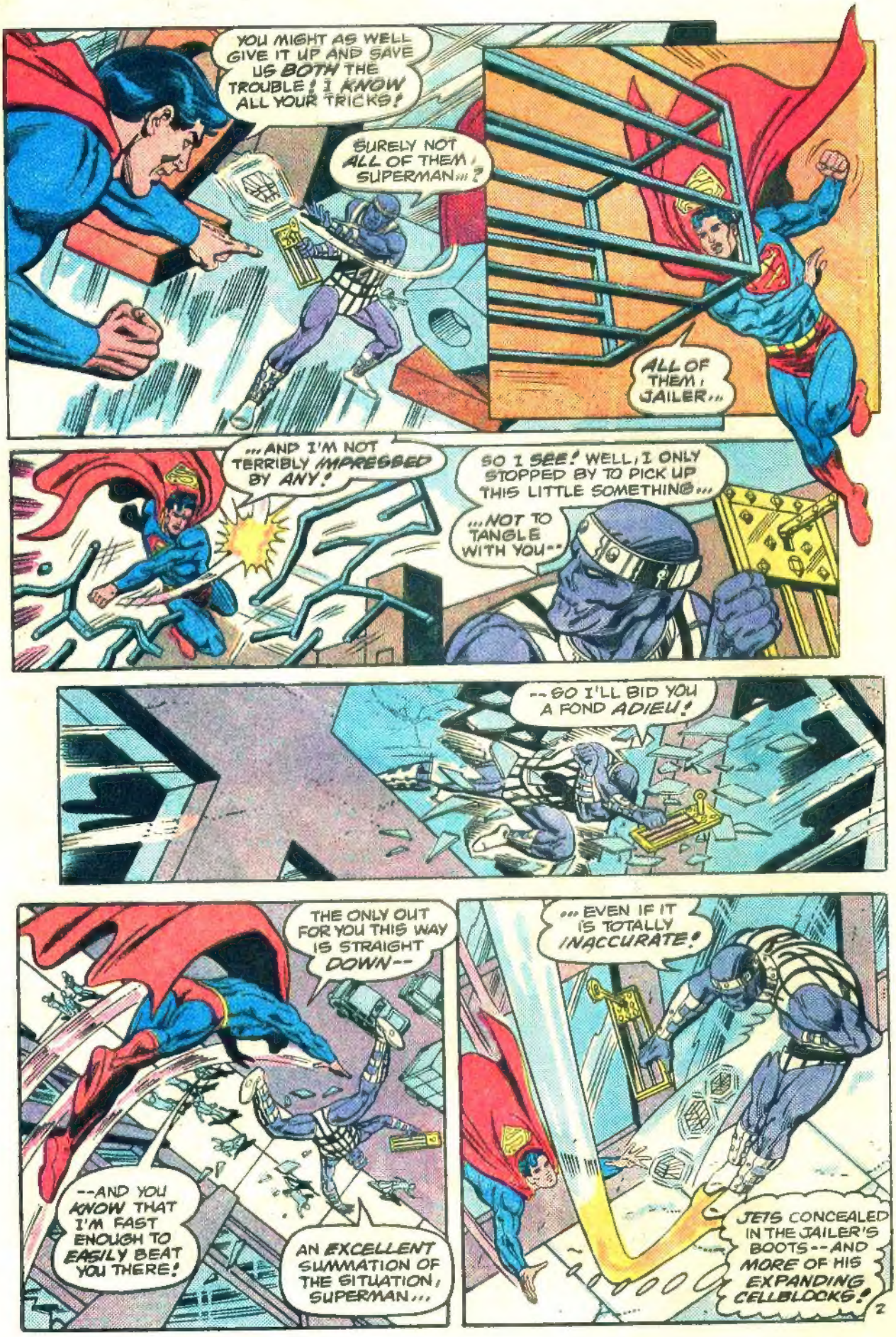
YOU MIGHT AS WELL GIVE IT UP AND SAVE US BOTH THE TROUBLE! I KNOW ALL YOUR TRICKS!
SURELY NOT ALL OF THEM, SUPERMAN...?
ALL OF THEM, JAILER...
...AND I'M NOT TERRIBLY IMPRESSED BY ANY!
SO I SEE! WELL, I ONLY STOPPED BY TO PICK UP THIS LITTLE SOMETHING...
...NOT TO TANGLE WITH YOU--
--SO I'LL BID YOU A FOND ADIEU!
THE ONLY OUT FOR YOU THIS WAY IS STRAIGHT DOWN--
--AND YOU KNOW THAT I'M FAST ENOUGH TO EASILY BEAT YOU THERE!
AN EXCELLENT SUMMATION OF THE SITUATION, SUPERMAN...
...EVEN IF IT IS TOTALLY INACCURATE!
JETS CONCEALED IN THE JAILER'S BOOTS--AND MORE OF HIS EXPANDING CELLBLOCKS!
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ONLY, THESE ARE DIFFERENT-- PROGRAMMED TO TAKE EVASIVE ACTION!
I CAN'T LEAVE THEM BEHIND-- THEY COULD BE DANGEROUS!
BUT I'VE NO INTENTION OF LETTING JAILER GET AWAY--
--SO I'LL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF BOTH PROBLEMS AT ONCE...
"...USING A BEAM OF HEAT VISION TO GIVE JAILER'S BOOT JETS A BAD CASE OF HOT FOOT--"
AHH! SO FAR, SO GOOD!
FSSSSST
--AND THEN, NOW THAT I'M A SAFE DISTANCE FROM INNOCENT BYSTANDERS, GET RID OF THESE THINGS!
KRUNK
DON'T TRY ANYTHING ELSE, JAILER. I'D HATE TO DROP YOU FROM HERE!
PERISH THE THOUGHT, SUPERMAN! I KNOW WHEN I'M BESTED! CONSIDER ME YOUR PRISONER!

THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU! WHATEVER YOU HAVE UP YOUR SLEEVE WON'T HELP YOU-- IF IT'S NO LONGER THERE!
NO TRICKS, I ASSURE YOU!
THIS SOLID GOLD SCULPTURE ATTRACTED MY ATTENTION... NATURALLY IT WOULD, WITH A TITLE LIKE "URBAN PRISON"!
I WENT OUT TO STEAL, NOT RECREATE THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE WITH YOU.
OKAY, YOU'VE GOT ME! DO WHATEVER IT IS YOU DO WITH GUYS LIKE ME!
WHY DO I STILL GET THE FEELING YOU'RE PULLING SOMETHING? I'M SURE YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON YOU...!
LET'S GO--IT'S YOUR TURN TO TRY ON A CELL FOR SIZE!
UHH... ARE YOU SURE YOU'VE GOT TIME FOR THAT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? OF COURSE I... I...
YOU WERE SAYING--?
IT'S ALMOST 9 O'CLOCK!
RIGHT! ISN'T THERE SOMEWHERE ELSE YOU SHOULD BE-- MR. MIKE BENSON?
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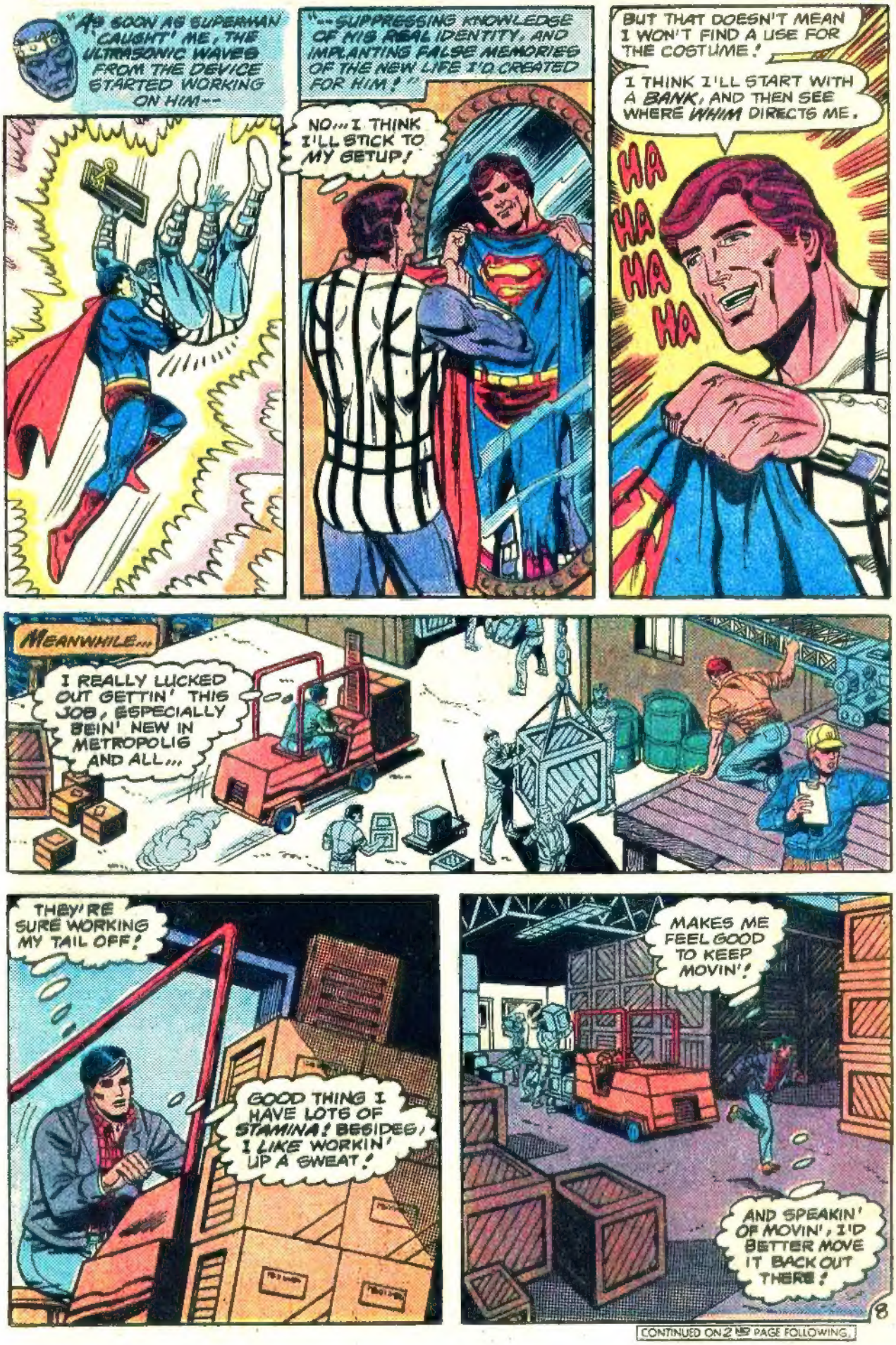
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

YEAH! I'M STARTIN' A NEW JOB TODAY... AND I...HUH?
WHAT AM I DOIN' IN THIS COSTUME?
FORGET IT, MIKE! JUST DUMP IT AND GET GOING!
SO LONG...
...SUCKER! HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HE'S RUNNING AT SUPER-SPEED-- AND HE'LL FORGET THAT COMPLETELY IN A FEW MINUTES!
WHOOSH
HA HA HA! THIS TIME, I DID IT! THE PERFECT "PRISON" TO RENDER SUPERMAN HARMLESS--
--BY TRAPPING HIM IN ANOTHER LIFE!
NOT ONLY AM I RID OF MY NEMESIS...
...BUT AS A BONUS I GET TO KEEP THE GOLD STATUE AND--
--HIS SUPER-COSTUME, TOO!
MOMENTS LATER, ON THE METROPOLIS WATERFRONT...
WHEW! GOOD THING MY APARTMENT'S NEARBY--
5

--OR I WOULD'VE BEEN LATE... I DON'T NEED HASSLES ON MY FIRST DAY!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?
IF YOU THINK THIS IS SUPERMAN, YOU'RE RIGHT... IN A WAY.
EXCEPT THAT SUPERMAN... OR CLARK KENT... OR KAL-EL... ARE NOT NAMES HE WOULD RECOGNIZE AS HIS OWN.
SUPERVISOR
LET'S FOLLOW HIM INTO THE SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE...
MORNIN', MR. PRESTON. I'M MIKE BENSON, YOUR NEW WORKER...
BEEN EXPECTIN' YOU, BENSON!
FILL THESE OUT AND GET 'EM BACK TO ME LATER!
THAT'S IT?
YOU EXPECTIN' A BRASS BAND? GO FIND HASKELL, THE FOREMAN! HE'LL PUT YOU TO WORK!
WHAT A CREEP! GOOD THING THERE'S NOTHIN' IN THE RULES ABOUT HAVIN' TO BE BUDDIES WITH THE SUPERVISOR!
THIS IS WHAT'S WRONG! SUPERMAN IS NO LONGER THE MAN HE ONCE WAS... AT LEAST NOT IN HIS OWN MIND...
...AND THE THANKS FOR THAT GOES TO THIS MAN, CARL DRAPER, ALSO KNOWN AS THE MASTER JAILER...
THIS KRYPTONIAN FABRIC COULD FETCH ME A FORTUNE IN THE UNDERWORLD MARKET--

--OR I COULD KEEP IT MYSELF! I'D BE INVULNERABLE IF I WORE IT!
NO BULLETS COULD GET THROUGH IT!
AND IT'S A CINCH SUPERMAN WON'T BE AROUND TO CLAIM IT!
HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HE IS SUPERMAN!
"WHAT BETTER WAY TO ACHIEVE MY GOAL OF 'IMPRISONING' THE MAN OF STEEL THAN BY REMOVING HIS POWERS..."
...STRIPPING HIM OF HIS MEMORY OF THEM AND TRAPPING HIM IN A DIFFERENT IDENTITY!
YOUR PLANS ARE OF NO CONCERN TO ME, MASTER JAILER--
--BUT, YES, I CAN ARRANGE FOR YOU TO SECURE THE DEVICE THAT FULFILLS YOUR NEEDS.
HOWEVER, FOR THE FIRST 48 HOURS AFTER HE IS EXPOSED TO THE DEVICE, YOUR VICTIM MUST NOT BE EXPOSED TO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT SHOCK HIM INTO REMEMBRANCE OF HIS TRUE PAST!
FOR INSTANCE, WERE HE TO DON A SUPERMAN COSTUME, ALL COULD BE UNDONE!
I UNDERSTAND, MONITOR! I'LL MAKE PAYMENT THE USUAL WAY!
VERY WELL!


"AS SOON AS SUPERMAN CAUGHT ME, THE ULTRASONIC WAVES FROM THE DEVICE STARTED WORKING ON HIM--
"--SUPPRESSING KNOWLEDGE OF HIS REAL IDENTITY, AND IMPLANTING FALSE MEMORIES OF THE NEW LIFE I'D CREATED FOR HIM!"
NO... I THINK I'LL STICK TO MY GETUP!
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I WON'T FIND A USE FOR THE COSTUME!
I THINK I'LL START WITH A BANK, AND THEN SEE WHERE WHIM DIRECTS ME.
HA HA HA HA
MEANWHILE...
I REALLY LUCKED OUT GETTIN' THIS JOB, ESPECIALLY BEIN' NEW IN METROPOLIS AND ALL...
THEY'RE SURE WORKING MY TAIL OFF!
GOOD THING I HAVE LOTS OF STAMINA! BESIDES, I LIKE WORKIN' UP A SWEAT!
MAKES ME FEEL GOOD TO KEEP MOVIN'!
AND SPEAKIN' OF MOVIN', I'D BETTER MOVE IT BACK OUT THERE!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

KREEACK
THAT SOUND--!
MAN! WHOEVER STACKED THOSE CRATES DID A LOUSY JOB--
KREEEEK!
--AND THIS POOR GUY'S GONNA PAY FOR THEIR SHODDY WORKMANSHIP--
EEYIII--!
--UNLESS I'M QUICK ENOUGH TO GET HIM OUT FROM UNDER!
OOF!
KWAAM!
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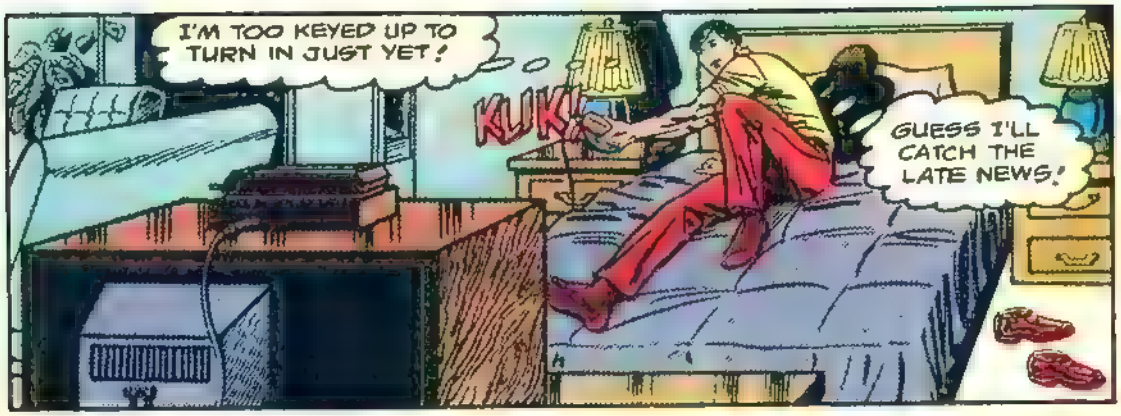
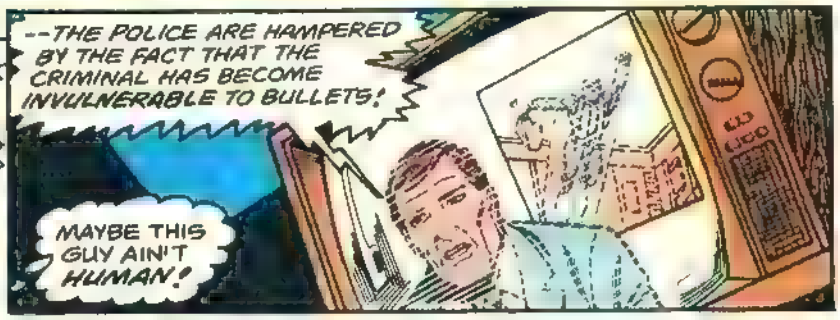
THAT WAS CLOSE! YOU OKAY, BUDDY?
Y-YEAH... THANKS TO YOU! YOU SAVED MY BUTT!
NOTHIN' YOU WOULDN'T HAVE DONE FOR ME, RIGHT?
I'D TRY, BUT I DON'T HAVE YOUR SPEED!
NAME'S DAVE PADGET. YOU'RE NEW, AREN'T YOU?
MIKE BENSON. YEAH, TODAY'S MY FIRST DAY!
YOUR TIMING COULDN'T HAVE BEEN BETTER! LOOK, I GOTTA REPORT THIS TO PRESTON! CATCH YOU LATER...
AND SO, COME LUNCHTIME...
YUK! THIS ROAST BEEF LOOKS LIKE LEATHER ON TWO PIECES OF CARDBOARD!
HEY, MIKE! OVER HERE!
DAVE! HOW YOU DOIN'?
BETTER'N THAT SANDWICH OF YOURS!
STAY AWAY FROM ROSIE'S LUNCH WAGON! IT'S DEADLY!
SO I'LL SKIP LUNCH!
HEY, GUYS, THIS IS MIKE BENSON... THE ONE WHO SAVED MY SKIN!

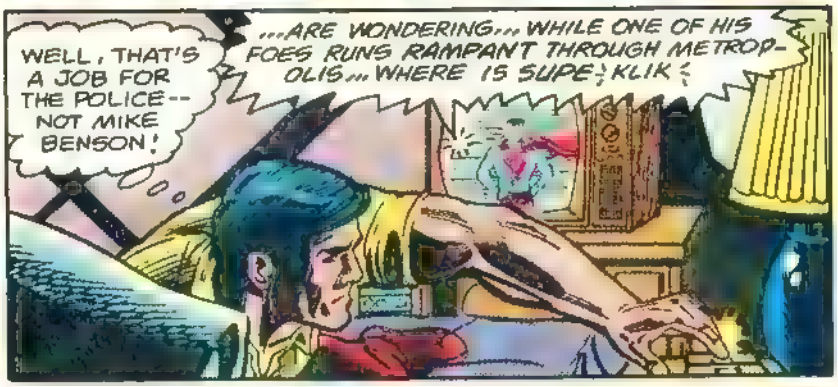
HERE, MIKE--I GOT AN EXTRA SANDWICH! HOW YOU GETTING ALONG?
OKAY, WORK'S NOT THAT TOUGH.
"NOT TOUGH"?! MAN, YOU MUST BE MADE OUTTA IRON!
A COUPLA THE GUYS ARE STOPPING AT D.J. ROURKE'S AFTER WORK. WANNA COME ALONG?
SURE, WHY NOT!
GREAT! YOU'LL MEET SOME DYNAMITE LADIES AT THAT DISCO!
SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!
MIKE BENSON SMILES. LIFE IS SURE LOOKING FINE.
OF COURSE, THAT ALL DEPENDS ON WHO IS DOING THE LOOKING...
GUNFIRE! SOUNDS LIKE A WAR IN THE BANK!
BANG
KPOW
POW!
BANG
GANGWAY! I'M COMING THROUGH!
THEY CAN TROT OUT HOWITZERS FOR ALL I CARE! NOBODY CAN STOP ME...
METRO FIDELITY
STRANG
PING
KER-SMASH!
...NOT AS LONG AS I'VE GOT SUPERMAN'S INDESTRUCTIBLE COSTUME ON UNDER MY OWN!
NOTHING CAN HURT IT--
--OR CHUCKLE ME!

LATER THAT DAY...
YOU'RE GONNA LOVE THIS PLACE, MIKE! EVERYBODY'S REAL FRIENDLY... ESPECIALLY THE LADIES!
SOUNDS LIKE MY KIND OF PLACE!
D.J. FOURKE
EVENING, GENTS! WE'RE ASKING EVERYONE TO WEAR A TEE SHIRT TONIGHT!
TEE SHIRT NITE! WEAR A FREE TEE SHIRT AND WIN A PRIZE
WHAT'D I TELL YOU, MIKE! THEY'RE ALWAYS DOING FUN STUFF LIKE THIS!
HEY, NOW THIS ONE WOULD BE PERFECT FOR YOU, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE WAY YOU SAVED ME TODAY!
WHAT'S THAT? A "CAPTAIN KLUTZ" SHIRT?
NAW... SUPERMAN!
UH-UH... I'D LOOK LIKE A JERK IN THAT ONE!
THIS ONE'S BETTER-- MUCH BETTER!
C'MON, DAVE, WHERE'RE THOSE LADIES YOU'VE BEEN TALKIN' ABOUT?
SEVERAL HOURS LATER, AS "MIKE BENSON" RETURNS HOME...
THAT'S QUITE A DAY I HAD-- AND I DON'T EVEN FEEL TIRED!
12


I'M TOO KEYED UP TO TURN IN JUST YET!
KLIK!
GUESS I'LL CATCH THE LATE NEWS!

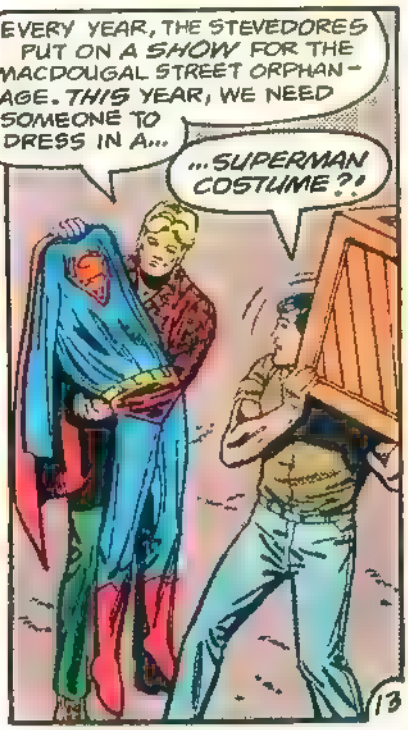
...POLICE ARE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN THE MASTER JAILER'S SUDDEN CRIME-SPREE!
THOUGH A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CHIEF'S OFFICE ASSURES US THAT EVERY EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO APPREHEND THE JAILER--


--THE POLICE ARE HAMPERED BY THE FACT THAT THE CRIMINAL HAS BECOME INVULNERABLE TO BULLETS!
MAYBE THIS GUY AIN'T HUMAN!

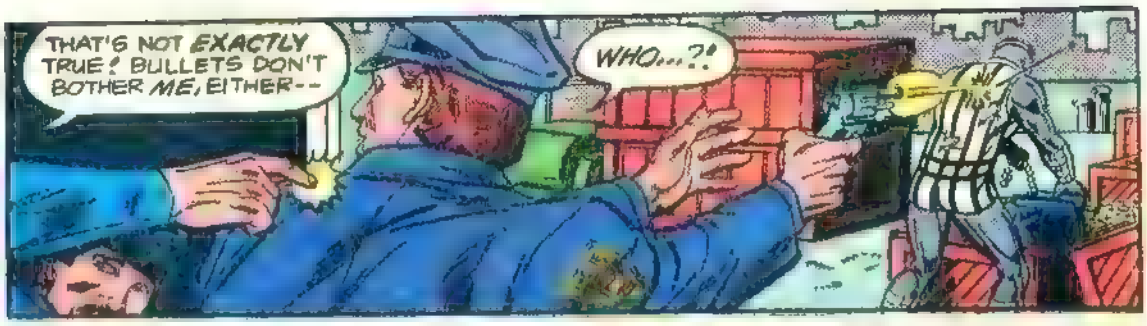

WELL, THAT'S A JOB FOR THE POLICE-- NOT MIKE BENSON!
...ARE WONDERING... WHILE ONE OF HIS FOES RUNS RAMPANT THROUGH METROPOLIS... WHERE IS SUPE? KLIK

THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON...
HEY, MIKE! I BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU!
I FIGURED I WAS FINISHED WITH MY WORK, SO I THOUGHT WHY NOT LEND A HAND HERE?

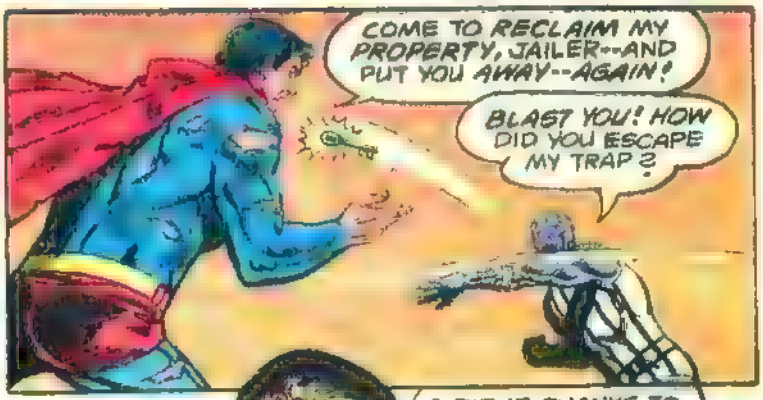
YOU'RE MAKIN' THE REST OF US LOOK BAD, PAL!
ANYWAY, I WANT TO ASK YOU A FAVOR. HERE-- I'LL SHOW YOU--
WHAT IS IT--?

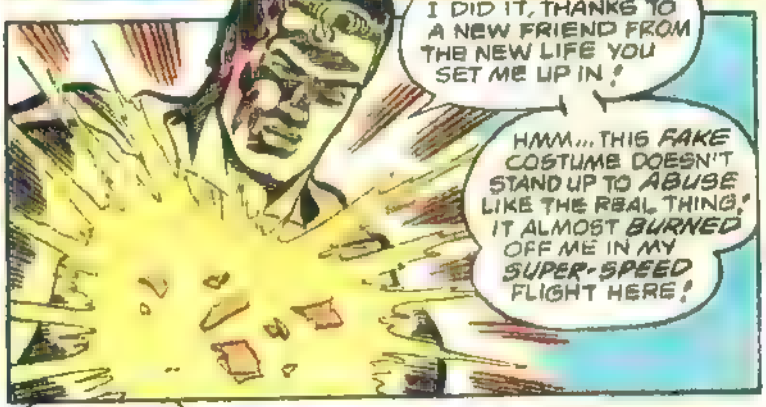

EVERY YEAR, THE STEVEDORES PUT ON A SHOW FOR THE MACDOUGAL STREET ORPHANAGE. THIS YEAR, WE NEED SOMEONE TO DRESS IN A...
...SUPERMAN COSTUME?!

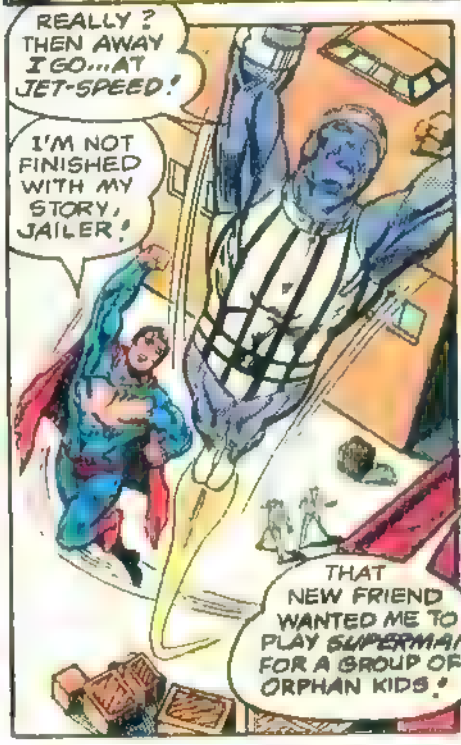
THAT'S RIGHT, MIKE...AND YOU SURE GOT THE BUILD FOR THE PART! GO IN THERE AN' TRY IT ON!
I DON'T KNOW, DAVE...
C'MON...IT'S FOR THE KIDS!
MIKE MAY HAVE A LITTLE STAGE FRIGHT... BUT WHO CAN SAY NO TO THOSE ORPHANS?
HOW'S IT GOING, MIKE? DOES IT FIT?
MIKE—?
WHY DON'TCHA ANSWER...
...MIKE..?!
HE'S GONE... TOOK THE COSTUME AND SPLIT! WHAT MADE HIM DO THAT—?
N-ARRBY...
HA HA HA! YOU'RE JUST WASTING AMMUNITION, BOYS...
PING
PANG
...BECAUSE I DON'T GET DENTED BY THOSE THINGS ANYMORE!
BULL! NOBODY CAN TAKE A HAIL OF BULLETS!


THAT'S NOT EXACTLY TRUE! BULLETS DON'T BOTHER ME, EITHER--
WHO...?!

--BUT THAT TALENT COMES MORE NATURALLY TO ME THAN TO THE MASTER JAILER!
SUPERMAN...?


COME TO RECLAIM MY PROPERTY, JAILER--AND PUT YOU AWAY--AGAIN!
BLAST YOU! HOW DID YOU ESCAPE MY TRAP?


I DID IT, THANKS TO A NEW FRIEND FROM THE NEW LIFE YOU SET ME UP IN!
HMM... THIS FAKE COSTUME DOESN'T STAND UP TO ABUSE LIKE THE REAL THING! IT ALMOST BURNED OFF ME IN MY SUPER-SPEED FLIGHT HERE!


REALLY? THEN AWAY I GO...AT JET-SPEED!
I'M NOT FINISHED WITH MY STORY, JAILER!
THAT NEW FRIEND WANTED ME TO PLAY SUPERMAN FOR A GROUP OF ORPHAN KIDS!

SOMETHING INSIDE ME RESISTED PUTTING ON THIS COSTUME, BUT I DID IT ANYWAY--BECAUSE IT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO!
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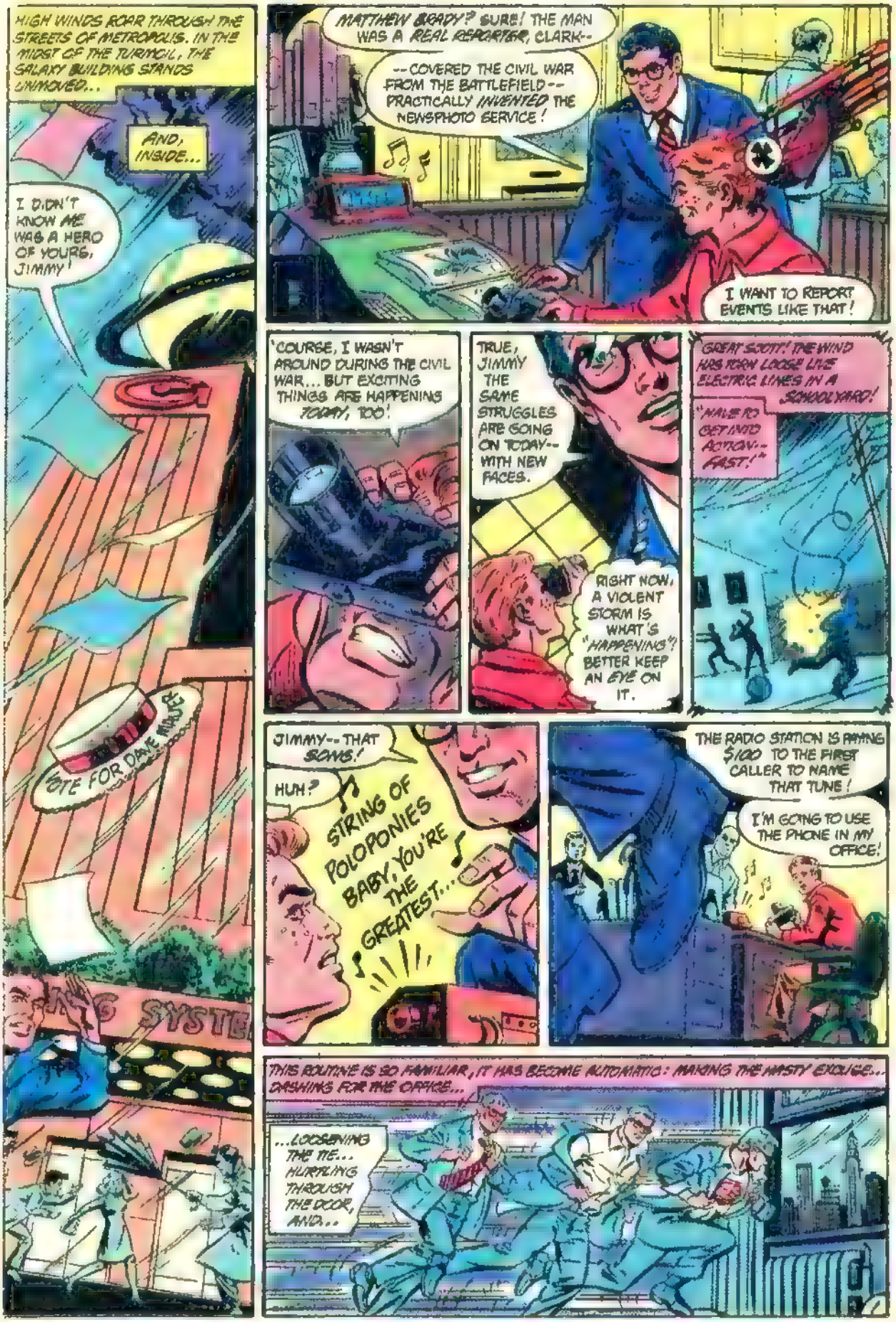
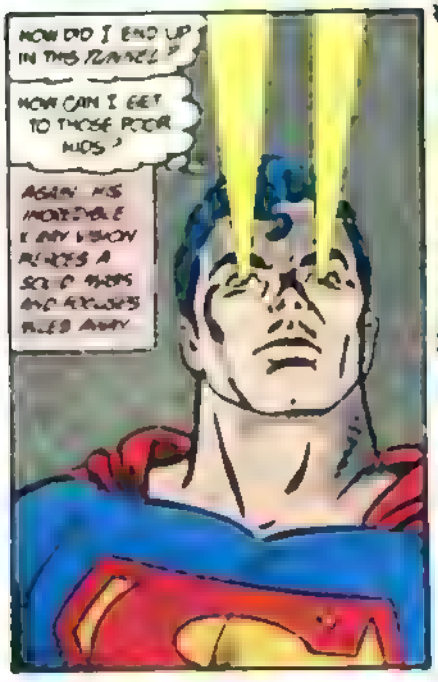
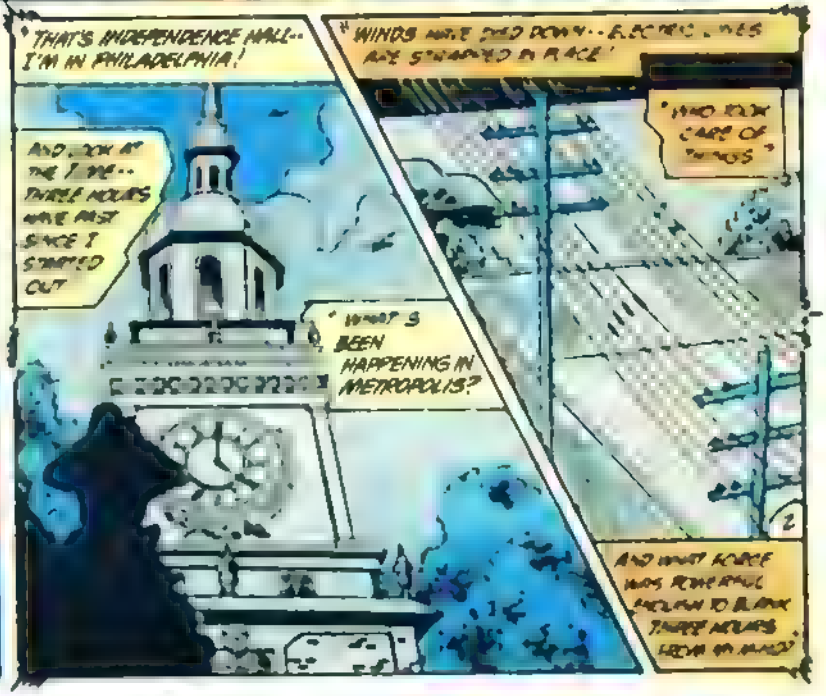
--AND YOU KNOW WHAT? THE COSTUME DIDN'T FEEL STRANGE AT ALL!
IN FACT, IT FELT LIKE I BELONGED IN IT!
OH, SHUT UP!
ANYWAY, ONCE I HAD MY MEMORY BACK, I BEGAN WONDERING WHERE YOU'D BE LIKELY TO PULL ANOTHER HEIST--
SWISH!
--AND WHAT BETTER PLACE THAN HERE ON THE WATERFRONT--RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE--
-- TAUNTING ME--EVEN THOUGH I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO KNOW!
NOW IT'S TIME I TOOK MY COSTUME BACK--
DON'T COUNT ON IT, HERO!
WEARING IT ENABLES ME TO STAND UP EVEN TO YOUR WORST!
TRUE, THE COSTUME CAN... BUT THE SHOCK OF MY FIST'S IMPACT COULD STILL SHATTER EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY!
IF YOU HAD REALLY WANTED TO BE INVULNERABLE, YOU SHOULD HAVE WORN THE COSTUME OVER YOUR FACE--
--SO I COULDN'T FLATTEN YOU WITH THIS TAP TO YOUR GLASS JAW!
UGH!
THIS IS THE LAST TIME YOU'LL SEE ME IN A FAKE COSTUME, JAILER--
--BECAUSE "MIKE BENSON" WILL BE WEARING THE REAL THING WHEN HE SHOWS UP AT THE ORPHANAGE! I OWE THEM THAT FOR THE COSTUME RETURNING MY MEMORY!
AFTER THAT, LONGSHOREMAN MIKE BENSON WILL BE LEAVING METROPOLIS...
NEXT ISSUE:
AMBUSH BUG!
ON SALE DEC. 27! IT'S A DATE!


HIGH WINDS ROAR THROUGH THE STREETS OF METROPOLIS. IN THE MIDST OF THE TURMOIL, THE GALAXY BUILDING STANDS UNMOVED...
AND, INSIDE...
I DIDN'T KNOW ME WAS A HERO OF YOURS, JIMMY!
VOTE FOR DAVE MAUSER
MATTHEW BRADY? SURE! THE MAN WAS A REAL REPORTER, CLARK--
--COVERED THE CIVIL WAR FROM THE BATTLEFIELD-- PRACTICALLY INVENTED THE NEWSPHOTO SERVICE!
I WANT TO REPORT EVENTS LIKE THAT!
'COURSE, I WASN'T AROUND DURING THE CIVIL WAR... BUT EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING TODAY, TOO!
TRUE, JIMMY THE SAME STRUGGLES ARE GOING ON TODAY-- WITH NEW FACES.
RIGHT NOW, A VIOLENT STORM IS WHAT'S "HAPPENING"! BETTER KEEP AN EYE ON IT.
GREAT SCOTT! THE WIND HAS TORN LOOSE LIKE ELECTRIC LINES IN A SCHOOLYARD!
"NAILS TO GET INTO ACTION-- FAST!"
JIMMY-- THAT SOUND!
HUH?
STRING OF POLOPONIES BABY, YOU'RE THE GREATEST...
THE RADIO STATION IS PAYING $100 TO THE FIRST CALLER TO NAME THAT TUNE!
I'M GOING TO USE THE PHONE IN MY OFFICE!
THIS ROUTINE IS SO FAMILIAR, IT HAS BECOME AUTOMATIC: MAKING THE HASTY EXCUSE... DASHING FOR THE OFFICE...
...LOOSENING THE TIE... HURTLING THROUGH THE DOOR, AND...

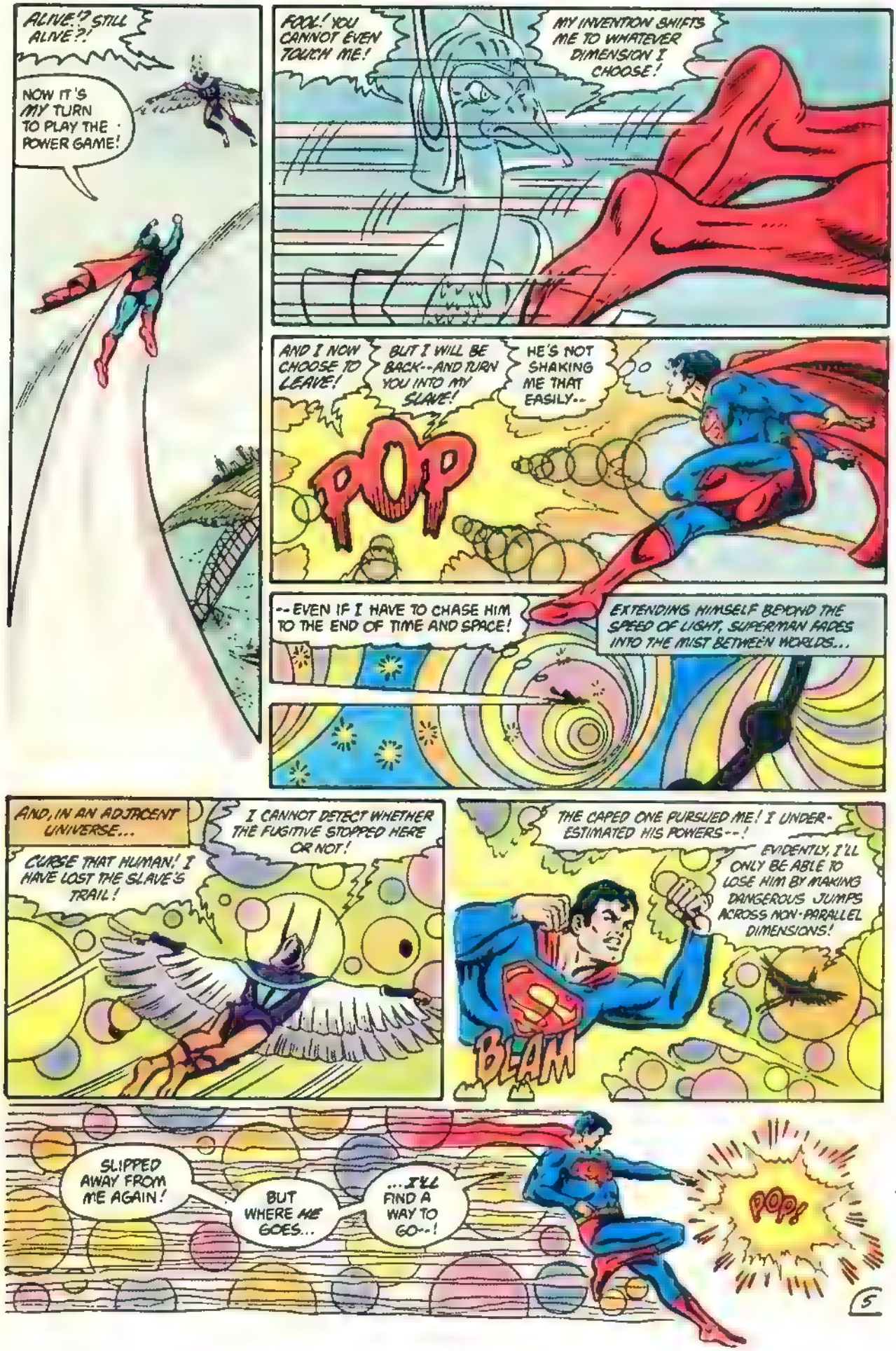
...RUN FOR FREEDOM!
SUPERMAN
INTO A DESPERATE
WH-WHERE AM I?
JUDGE SCHAFER
HOWARD BENDER
JULES SCHWARTZ, EDITOR


HOW DO I END UP IN THIS PLANE?
HOW CAN I GET TO THOSE POOR KIDS?
AGAIN HIS INCREDIBLE X-RAY VISION PIERCES A SOLID WALL AND REVEALS THE SCENE BEYOND

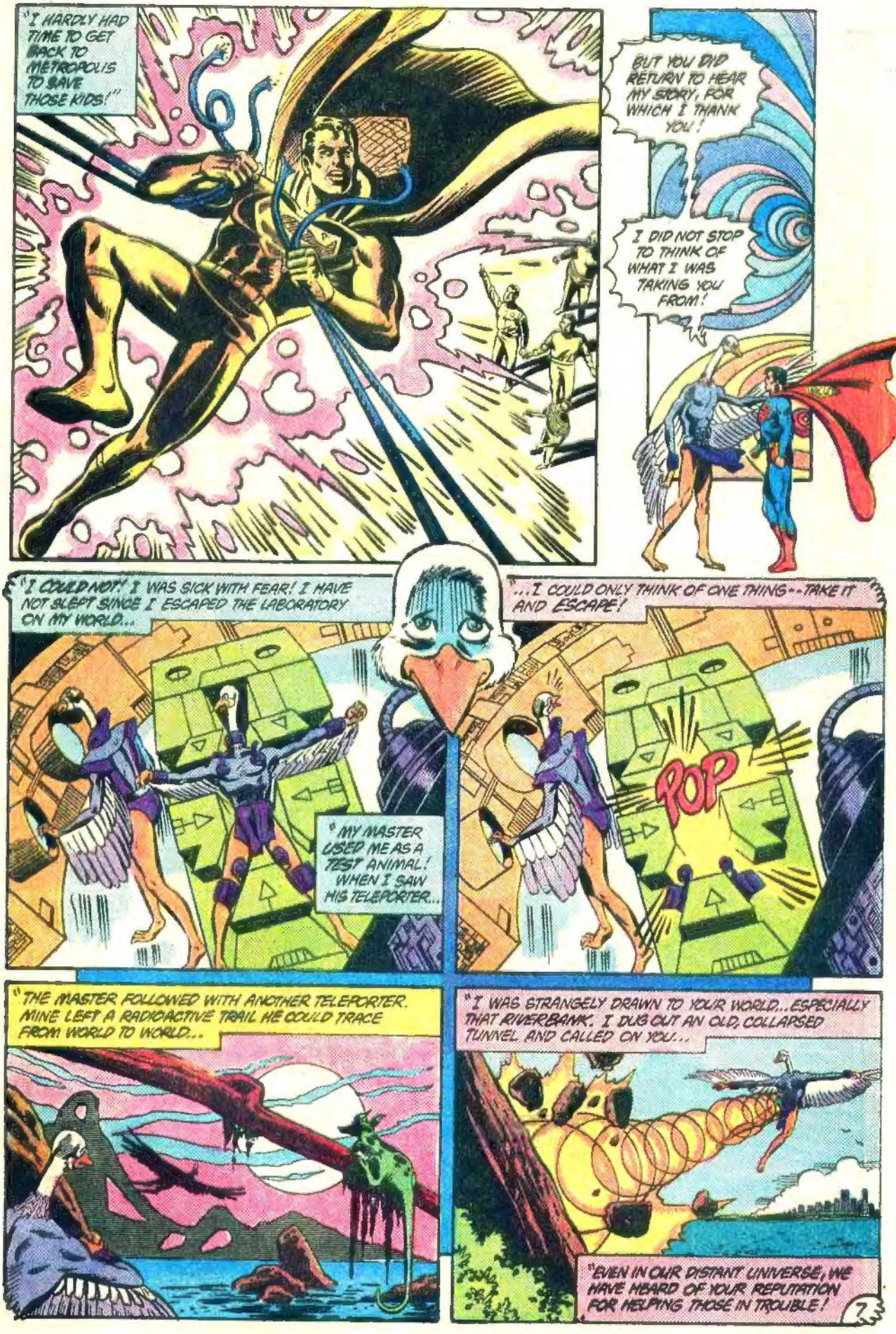

THAT'S INDEPENDENCE HALL--I'M IN PHILADELPHIA!
AND LOOK AT THE TIME--THREE HOURS HAVE PASSED SINCE I STEPPED OUT
WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN METROPOLIS?
WINDS HAVE DIED DOWN--ELECTRIC LINES ARE STRAIGHTENED IN PLACE!
WHO TOOK CARE OF THINGS?
AND WHAT FORCE WAS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BLANK THOSE HOURS FROM MY MIND?

AND WHEN HE FLASHES OUT INTO THE DAYLIGHT...
THIS MUST BE THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER!
I WONDER--WAS THAT AN OLD HIDING PLACE FOR--
SURRENDER MY SLAVE!
POP
SLAVE? WH-WHAT SLAVE?
THE ONE YOU ARE HIDING HERE! GIVE HIM UP, I TELL YOU!
I THINK I LIKE "IT" BETTER AS JUST A HEAD-- NEVER SAW AN ALIEN LIKE THAT BEFORE!
POP
YOU CANNOT DECEIVE MY TRACKING DRONE! I SHALL FIND MY SLAVE--!
GONE!?
THAT DEVICE HE'S WEARING MUST TELEPORT AS WELL AS TRANSLATE HIS LANGUAGE!
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A SL--
POP
I DETECT THAT COWARDLY SLAVE'S SCENT ON YOU! WHERE IS HE?
LISTEN-- I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT--
WHAM! SMASH! CRASH!
-- BUT I DO KNOW I DON'T LIKE SLAVERY!
YOU ARE WASTING TIME AND EQUIPMENT!
WEEDGMK!
3

WH!
I WILL PROBE YOUR MIND-- EXTRACT THE ANSWER FROM YOU!
INTERESTING. I WONDER IF HE KNOWS THE PROBE OPENS HIS MIND TO ME, TOO?
I CAN SEE THE LIFE OF A SLAVE ON HIS WORLD--
"IT'S CRUEL... BARBAROUS...
"THE SLAVES WORK IN MINES, EXPOSED TO DEADLY RADIOACTIVE METALS... GIVEN NO PROTECTION
"THOUGH THEY HAVE ROBOTS THAT COULD DO THE WORK, THEY ARE STANDING IDLY BY.
MY MIND-PROBE SEES NOTHING! YOU MUST BE TOO PRIMITIVE!
I HAVE TO PICK UP THE HUNT BEFORE THE TRAIL GROWS COLD!
HOLD IT!
"DO THESE TECHNOLOGICAL MASTERS KEEP SLAVES SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY WALLOW IN THAT KIND OF POWER?"
HOW DARE YOU TOUCH ME! I WILL BRAIN YOU!
AKK-KH!
I WILL SLIDE MY HAND THROUGH ANOTHER DIMENSION TO HIS BRAIN!
PSFS
NOTHING CAN SURVIVE HAVING IT'S BRAIN IMPULSES DISRUPTED--
NO! IT CANNOT BE--!
4


ALIVE!? STILL ALIVE?!
NOW IT'S MY TURN TO PLAY THE POWER GAME!
FOOL! YOU CANNOT EVEN TOUCH ME!
MY INVENTION SHIFTS ME TO WHATEVER DIMENSION I CHOOSE!
AND I NOW CHOOSE TO LEAVE!
BUT I WILL BE BACK--AND TURN YOU INTO MY SLAVE!
HE'S NOT SHAKING ME THAT EASILY--
POP
--EVEN IF I HAVE TO CHASE HIM TO THE END OF TIME AND SPACE!
EXTENDING HIMSELF BEYOND THE SPEED OF LIGHT, SUPERMAN FADES INTO THE MIST BETWEEN WORLDS...
AND, IN AN ADJACENT UNIVERSE...
CURSE THAT HUMAN! I HAVE LOST THE SLAVE'S TRAIL!
I CANNOT DETECT WHETHER THE FUGITIVE STOPPED HERE OR NOT!
THE CAPED ONE PURSUED ME! I UNDERESTIMATED HIS POWERS--!
EVIDENTLY, I'LL ONLY BE ABLE TO LOSE HIM BY MAKING DANGEROUS JUMPS ACROSS NON-PARALLEL DIMENSIONS!
BLAM
SLIPPED AWAY FROM ME AGAIN!
BUT WHERE HE GOES...
...I'LL FIND A WAY TO GO--!
POP!

AND, A GEOMETRICAL WORLD AWAY...
THE MOST DIFFICULT OF DIMENSIONS TO PIERCE--
--AND STILL HE PURSUES ME!
BLAAM
BUT I HAVE NOT RUN OUT OF DIMENSIONAL BYWAYS!
...UNTIL--
MY QUARRY, THE SLAVE--HERE?
NOW'S MY CHANCE TO KNOCK OUT HIS TELEPORTER!
THEY PLUMMET, WHIRL, FLY IN AND OUT OF THE CORRIDOR BETWEEN DIMENSIONS...
THANKS! YOUR APPEARANCE STUNNED HIM LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO FUSE HIS TELEPORTER WITH MY HEAT VISION!
YOU ARE--?
"--YOU ARE THE SLAVE! NOW I REMEMBER! YOU PULLED ME OUT OF THE GALAXY BUILDING WITH YOUR TELEPORTER!
!
6


"I HARDLY HAD TIME TO GET BACK TO METROPOLIS TO SAVE THOSE KIDS!"
BUT YOU DID RETURN TO HEAR MY STORY, FOR WHICH I THANK YOU!
I DID NOT STOP TO THINK OF WHAT I WAS TAKING YOU FROM!
"I COULD NOT! I WAS SICK WITH FEAR! I HAVE NOT SLEPT SINCE I ESCAPED THE LABORATORY ON MY WORLD...
"...I COULD ONLY THINK OF ONE THING--TAKE IT AND ESCAPE!
"MY MASTER USED ME AS A TEST ANIMAL! WHEN I SAW HIS TELEPORTER...
POP
"THE MASTER FOLLOWED WITH ANOTHER TELEPORTER. MINE LEFT A RADIOACTIVE TRAIL HE COULD TRACE FROM WORLD TO WORLD...
"I WAS STRANGELY DRAWN TO YOUR WORLD...ESPECIALLY THAT RIVERBANK. I DUG OUT AN OLD, COLLAPSED TUNNEL AND CALLED ON YOU...
"EVEN IN OUR DISTANT UNIVERSE, WE HAVE HEARD OF YOUR REPUTATION FOR HELPING THOSE IN TROUBLE!
7

"I THINK I SEE, NOW, HOW YOU RESISTED THE MIND-PROBE!
"YOU HAVE SUCH POWERS OF SELF-CONTROL THAT YOU HYPNOTICALLY ERASED YOUR OWN MEMORY OF OUR MEETING!"
BUT EVEN AFTER YOU GOT AWAY, YOU COULDN'T LEAVE ME TO FACE YOUR FORMER MASTER ALONE!
YOU'RE THE REAL HERO! COME BACK TO EARTH WITH ME -- I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING!
I'LL HOLD ON TO YOUR FORMER MASTER UNTIL I TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS WORLD!
AND UPON THEIR RETURN TO EARTH...
SEE THAT OLD HOUSE? THE OTHER END OF THE SECRET TUNNEL YOU FOUND LEADS THERE.
BY A STRANGE COINCIDENCE, IT WAS ONE OF THE HOUSES USED TO SHELTER ESCAPING SLAVES ON THIS WORLD!
MORE THAN 100 EARTH-YEARS AGO, THERE WAS A NETWORK OF HEROIC MEN AND WOMEN, INCLUDING EX-SLAVES, HELPING FUGITIVES TO FREEDOM!
IT WAS CALLED -- THE "UNDERGROUND RAILROAD"!
SOME PHILADELPHIA CITIZENS PARTICIPATED IN IT! MAYBE THAT'S WHY YOU WERE ATTRACTED HERE!
SOME DAY -- AFTER I FIND A WORLD WHERE NO SLAVER CAN EVER FIND ME --
-- I WILL RETURN HOME -- AND HELP OTHER SLAVES ESCAPE!
THANK YOU, SUPERMAN! FAREWELL!
WOULDN'T THAT BE SOMETHING -- EARTH BECOMING A STOP ON A NEW, UNIVERSE-SPANNING UNDERGROUND RAILROAD!
FIN

Scanned by
BATMONK